



September 2020

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present you with my September newsletter below.

As we've shared, I experienced a traumatic facial and head injury about 10 days ago while coaching baseball. (If you missed it, details [here](#)). Therefore, this newsletter is different than the others; except for this introduction, it was put together entirely by my staff and doesn't have my usual commentary and analysis. We also weren't able to address a few issues this month that I had intended to write about in detail; I hope to be able to do that in the future. That being said, we did want to provide you with news and information about relevant topics such as land use cases, the upcoming election, and more - so you will find all of that below.

I want to continue to be as transparent as I can about my health situation. Following the injury, I was hospitalized at Reston Hospital Center for three days and have been home for about a week. While in the hospital, I had surgery to repair an orbital floor "blowout" fracture below my right eye. The surgery successfully installed a titanium mesh device to

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replace the bone structure below the eye. The other bones along the orbital were reset and the eye was put back in proper alignment. Since the surgery, a great deal of fluid has accumulated in the sinus cavity, which is creating a lot of pain and pressure in the part of my face that still has feeling. This is an infection risk and is being treated with antibiotics. Some of the facial nerves were severed in the accident and the surgery, so I don't have feeling in my nose and parts of my face. The surgeon believes that some of these issues should resolve in 3-4 weeks, but the nerve damage is more in the 3-6 month range.

The sutures were removed from my eye last week so it can now be opened, but I do not have vision or use of the eye at this time. The eye doctor has diagnosed "traumatic iritis," which is basically trauma to the colored part of the eyeball that is interfering with vision. The eye itself is very painful and when I do open it, I get dizzy and bothered by light. On the positive side, the doctor ran a lot of other tests on the eye and confirmed that the retina, macular, and nerves appear to be intact and in good shape. So this is also a waiting game, and we may again be looking at 3-5 weeks before seeing a lot of improvement. I will be relieved when that happens; in the meantime, we are continuing to visit the eye doctor every week for evaluations.

Finally, I know that I experienced a pretty significant concussion. I do continue to have related symptoms including dizziness, fatigue, short term memory loss and others. We are visiting the Inova Loudoun Concussion clinic later this week for a full analysis of those issues.

I am used to having a very active life. I have a lot of responsibilities and I enjoy jumping in and working to solve problems, whether in my professional life, for the Metro Board, or doing County work. I am realizing this week that recovery is going to be a slow process and that I am really not in control. That is not an easy thing to accept! I don't know at this point when I will be able to resume a full schedule, but it will be at least

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a few weeks. I am able to talk daily with Tom and Jared in my office, and with County staff. I have to limit the amount of time I spend doing things, and I'm not able to use a computer and am trying to limit "screen time." But my staff is working every day and you should feel free to reach out if there's anything that you need from us. Also, my Board colleagues have been very supportive. I have spoken with Chair Randall and she has offered her help and will work with us on items that I have been involved in or will impact our district. I will likely have to miss some upcoming meetings but I am confident we will be able to manage despite missing them.

Finally, I want to thank the many people who have offered well wishes - emails, cards, etc. I wish I could respond to them all but please know they are truly appreciated. We have a tremendous community of caring people here in Dulles South and Loudoun County. I also want to continue to thank the medical team that is assisting me, and the nurses and doctors at Reston Hospital Center that cared for me while I was there.

This incident is certainly a reminder that things can change in an instant, and while it may be a slow road back, I am thankful for all of the support.

This month, the Board approved Supervisor Letourneau's resolution honoring the Freedom High School Girls Varsity Gymnastics Team for their victory in the VHSL Class 5A state championship last year. If this storyline seems familiar to you, it's for good reason: this particular Freedom team, coached by the outstanding Laura Wrighte, has won the state championship 4 out of the last 5 years. This year, the team had consistent performances in local and regional competitions before scoring over 150 points at the state tournament. They also had multiple team members qualify for individual state competitions. Congratulations girls!

The Board also approved Supervisor Letourneau's proclamation declaring September as Childhood

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Helpful Links

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Information](#)

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Cancer Awareness Month in Loudoun County. This proclamation recognizes many of the excellent local groups working to provide care and support for childhood cancer patients and their families in Loudoun County: Ellie's Hats, iPromise 15, Team Mathias, Smashing Walnuts, and Hope Faster to name a few.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Latest Numbers

According to the official numbers released today by the Virginia Department of Health, there are 6,889 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Loudoun County. 125 individuals have died from the virus in Loudoun. Virginia now has 148,271 confirmed cases with 3,208 deaths. The number of hospitalized patients in Loudoun remains steady. You can see these numbers yourself at the Loudoun County COVID-19 [GeoHub](#). At this point, we are not seeing evidence of a spike in Northern Virginia, but we will continue to watch those numbers carefully.

Round Two CARES Act Allocations

On September 1, the Board of Supervisors voted on a second distribution of \$36 million of CARES Act funding. These funds are in addition to the \$36 million already allocated by the County. This money was provided to the Commonwealth and then passed on from the state to localities; it must be used by December 31 for eligible expenses. The items being proposed for expenditures are:

- \$500,000 for emergency food assistance
- \$2.0 million for emergency housing assistance
- \$1.75 million for non-profit support
- \$747,000 for facility and workspace modifications
- \$2.4 million to establish a PRCS Child Care program for K-6th grade students
- \$200,000 for COVID-19 testing and outreach

[Loudoun County Traffic Incident Map](#)

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[Loudoun Online Land Applications System \(LOLA\)](#)

[COVID-19](#)

\$1.3 million for the County Business Interruption Fund, Round 4
\$3.0 million for Business Interruption Fund Round 5
\$3.5 million for LCPS PPE
\$2.5 million for LCPS workspace modifications
\$6.0 million for LCPS overtime, temporary staffing and other compensation
\$2.5 million for County overtime, temporary staffing and other compensation
\$6.08 million to the towns in Loudoun County (as required by the Commonwealth)

The Board of Supervisors initially deferred action on the \$12 million to Loudoun County Public Schools until more detailed information could be provided on its planned use. This additional information was received and that portion of the funding was approved 6-3 at the September 15 meeting.

Halloween Guidance

The Virginia Department of Health recently issued interim [Halloween guidance](#). The VDH guidance is similar to the [guidance](#) that was issued by the CDC. You may recall that the County does not regulate the hours when trick-or treating may occur. However, some towns or HOAs may set hours or limitations on those activities.

The County Health Department has utilized these resources to provide information to families as they consider what activities they wish to participate in this Halloween. In short, the Health Department is recommending not to participate in traditional trick or treating, go to haunted houses or crowded events, ride hayrides or tractors with people not in the same household, or travel to and from areas outside your immediate community. Safe Halloween activities include contactless treat delivery, pumpkin carving, outdoor decorating, outdoor costume parades at a safe distance, and virtual Halloween costume contests - preferably with family and local friends so as to limit potential spread of the virus. More information is available at www.loudoun.gov/safehalloween.

DULLES DISTRICT UPDATES

LCPS Elementary School Boundary Revisions

There are two new elementary schools slated to open next fall for the 2021/22 academic year: Elaine E. Thompson (located in the Arcola Center development) and Hovatter (co-located on the Lightridge High School site). Since both schools will need new attendance zones, LCPS has identified that current attendance boundaries could potentially change for the following elementary schools: Aldie, Arcola, Buffalo Trail, Cardinal Ridge, Creighton's Corner, Goshen Post, Hutchison Farm, Legacy, Liberty, Little River, Madison's Trust, Pinebrook, Rosa Lee Carter, and Sycolin Creek.

A series of School Board meetings will be held to review, propose, and adopt school attendance zone adjustments for the aforementioned schools (should those adjustments be required). A list of the upcoming meetings can be found [here](#). Reminder: The Board of Supervisors is not involved in the attendance boundary process; that is solely the responsibility of the School Board. This item is being provided for informational purposes only.

VDOT Public Information Meeting on Braddock Road / Old Lee Road Study Tonight

The Virginia Department of Transportation will hold a [virtual public information meeting](#) tonight - Wednesday, Sept. 30 - on a study assessing potential safety and operational improvements at the intersection of Braddock Road and Old Lee Road, and the S-curve on Braddock Road between Pleasant Valley Road and Old Lee Road.

The concepts being studied include realignment of the S-curve and intersection enhancements at Braddock Road and Old Lee Road such as turn lanes and innovative intersection improvements. The preferred

alternative as highlighted at the February public information meeting includes:

- Constructing the S-curve portion of Braddock Road on a new, straighter alignment
- Building a new traffic signal at the Braddock Road and Old Lee Road intersection
- Constructing a "jughandle" lane for turns from eastbound Braddock Road to Old Lee Road ("jughandle" is an at-grade ramp allowing drivers to make indirect left turns and/or U-turns)
- Adding a right-turn lane from Old Lee Road to westbound Braddock Road

In lieu of an in-person meeting, VDOT invites residents and travelers to learn more, participate in the virtual meeting and give feedback in the following ways:

- Attend the Wednesday, Sept. 30 meeting online by registering at virginiadot.org/braddockandoldlee or to participate without registering in listen-only mode, call 562-247-8321 (use access code 717-789-249). The VDOT project team will make a short presentation beginning at 7 PM and answer questions for about an hour after the presentation.
- Provide comments via the online survey or by email to meetingcomments@vdot.virginia.gov.
- Mail comments to Mr. Andrew Beacher, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Send comments through Tuesday, Oct. 13.

Once the meeting is complete, the recorded presentation will be available online. Past meeting materials and project details are also available at virginiadot.org/braddockandoldlee.

**Tall Cedars Parkway / Stone Springs Boulevard
Signal**

In early September, Virginia Sign and Lighting installed the signal loop wires, paved the asphalt surface and trail tie-ins, and placed final pavement markings at the intersection. Barrels have been placed temporarily to keep drivers from utilizing newly marked turn lanes prior to the signal being operational. Next, communications installation will be coordinated with VDOT and Comcast, traffic counts will be conducted for signal timings, disturbed ground areas will be restored to original condition, and VSL will pull wire and install signal poles and mast arms at all quadrants of the intersection. As reported in last month's newsletter, the delivery date for the mast arms is scheduled for early November. This same contractor is working on the installation of pedestrian lighting and signage on Millstream Drive at the crosswalk located between the commuter lots.

Tall Cedars Parkway / Nations Street Safety Improvements

Interim safety improvements at the intersection of Tall Cedars Parkway and Nations Street were completed earlier this month. Flex post installation and pavement markings were completed as part of VDOT's project to repave Tall Cedars Parkway on the eastern end of South Riding. The flex posts are an interim measure that will remain in place until the County can complete the design and construction of permanent improvements as part of the County's Intersection Improvement Program, likely in the summer of 2022.

"What's Being Built Here?"

Our office frequently receives inquiries from many of you about what is under construction in a particular location around the district. This usually occurs when site work begins or parts of a structure start to take shape. We will share information on some of those inquiries in our monthly newsletter to help others in the community become aware of activities taking place around them.

There are two new commercial projects that have begun to generate some interest in the community:

Gum Spring Village Center/Southpoint Drive: Many of you have asked what is being constructed on the north side of Southpoint Drive in the Gum Spring Village Center. We confirmed with the shopping center owner that they have begun construction on a 6,000 square foot retail space with a drive thru. According to the owner, they don't have a signed lease in place, but have been in contact with several potential users. The space can be finished inside as one area or broken into smaller areas and is expected to be completed late this year.



Tall Cedars Parkway/Meadows Farms Court: Site work recently began on this corner parcel located on the north side of Tall Cedars Parkway across from the Eastview community. Van Metre has confirmed that they are constructing a 3,600 square foot medical office building. The end user is expected to be a physical therapy practice and it should be complete by next summer.

DULLES LAND USE UPDATES

To view application materials, visit www.loudoun.gov/lola and enter the application number.

Conklin Community Park Bike Trail*SPEX-2019-0047*

This application was a request to permit construction of a bike trail with ramps in the wooded portion of Conklin Community Park that is in the Floodplain Overlay District. The creation of the trail required a special exception due to its inclusion in the FOD, but commitments to tree conservation and/or replacement and limited construction elements will ease environmental impact.

Supervisor Letourneau worked with the South Riding Proprietary and Loudoun County PRCS to get the project off the ground when some regulatory hurdles were encountered. At Supervisor Letourneau's request, the County completed the necessary floodplain and wetland impact studies. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the application at the September Public Hearing. We are working to secure more information on the project timeline to share with you in the future.

Rollins Property*SPEX 2019-0028*

This application was originally reviewed at the July 15 Public Hearing and is a special exception request to allow a data center use on a 9.5-acre property on the south side of Route 50. The property, which is zoned Commercial Light Industrial (CLI), is located between the Eastgate shopping center and existing data centers on the north side of Eastgate View Drive.

At the Public Hearing, the Board voted to forward the item to the September 1 Business Meeting for action. This allowed additional time for our office to contact the adjacent HOA and continue working with the applicant on Supervisor Letourneau's request to make improvements to the landscaping and building façade on the existing campus. The applicant agreed to make these improvements on the existing campus and work with Dominion Energy on improvements to the Route

50 frontage of the substation. The Board ultimately voted to approve the application 9-0 at the September 1 meeting.

H&M Property Data Center

ZMAP 2019-0017 & SPEX 2020-0022

This application is for 1.75 million square feet of data center uses, including a utility substation, in the Suburban Industrial / Mineral Extraction Place Type. The current zoning would allow 3.2 million square feet of by-right mineral extraction, processing, and industrial uses. The subject property is located on the north side of Route 50, directly abutting Dulles Airport. This area is heavily industrial.

The application came to the September Public Hearing, where the Board voted 9-0 to forward it to the October 20 Business Meeting for action. Supervisor Letourneau decided to send the item to the October meeting to address his concerns over the issue of power supply. Supervisor Letourneau would like to see the applicant work with Dominion Energy on a route that connects to the existing infrastructure and more directly serves the site without extending the transmission lines further east on Route 50. We will be working with staff and the applicant on this issue over the next month.

LOUDOUN UPDATES

PRCS Childcare Program Update

At the September 15 Business Meeting, the Board voted to revise the PRCS childcare program to reduce costs, cap the number of seats at 600, and eliminate potential use of the Ashburn and Rust Libraries (as well as the community centers) from the program.

Capping the number of participants at 600 eliminated the need for space at the two libraries. Instead, the childcare program will take place at 11 elementary

schools and two leased buildings that were previously used as daycares.

The new monthly rate for five full days per week of childcare is \$690, 70% of the original rate. The new monthly rate for five shorter days per week of childcare is \$345, 50% of the original rate. Loudoun County Public Schools Free and Reduced Lunch Program participants receive a 50% discount, while LCPS and County government employees receive a 10% discount. The reduced rate comes by temporarily moving resources from PRCS and adjusting the program's funding to include CARES Act funding, fees from participants, and local money from Loudoun's general fund. The program will also be made more flexible by adding two or three days per week as options.

Registration for the K-6 Distance Learning Childcare Program continues on a rolling basis; the link to register is [here](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Voting Information

On November 3, the Loudoun Office of Elections will conduct a General Election that will feature the vote for President and Vice President as well as United States Senator, Member of the United States House of Representatives for the 10th District, two Virginia Constitutional Amendments and four Loudoun County bond questions.

The County has set up a webpage dedicated to the election [here](#). This website has information about the three ways that you can vote in the November 3 General Election.

First, you can vote at home. If you are concerned about COVID-19 or have a physical handicap that prevents you from going to the polls, you can apply for a mail-in ballot at the web address above. You are encouraged

to do so as soon as possible. So far, the Office of Elections has received over 35,000 requests for mail-in ballots; compared to 4,000 requests at this time in a normal election year, the number is quite high - as expected.

You can mail your ballots to or drop them off at the Office of Elections and Voter Registration, located at 750 Miller Drive SE, Suite C in Leesburg. Please note that if you select this option and then change your mind and choose a different method, your vote will initially be counted as a provisional ballot until the Office confirms you didn't also send in a mail in ballot. Ballots must be postmarked no later than Election Day or dropped off at the Office of Elections no later than 7:00 PM on Election Day. The Office of Elections clarified that while the witness requirement is still listed in the instructions, a provision has been provided waiving the requirement if you don't feel safe securing the witness signature due to COVID-19. Voters using absentee ballots should be sure to follow the instructions, sealing the ballot in the "B" envelope and sealing "B" in the return envelope, which will have a purple stripe.

Second, you can vote early until October 30. Early voting has already started at the Office of Elections in Leesburg. Starting on October 17 and continuing through October 31, you can also vote locally at the Dulles South Senior Center (24950 Riding Center Drive) in South Riding. During this two week stretch, voting will be open Saturdays from 9 AM - 5 PM; Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10 AM - 6 PM; and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 AM - 8 PM. Early voters do not need to apply or make appointments in advance.

Third, you can vote on Election Day in person at your polling location (which can be confirmed on the Office of Elections website listed above). Due to COVID-19, preventative measures will be in place at polling locations. Staff has been working closely with the Health Department and Emergency Operations Center to ensure voter health and safety. Social distancing of 6 feet or greater will be employed. All voters will be

required to wear masks while in line or voting. Disinfectant measures will depend on the individual polling place but will be a priority, as all locations will be equipped with face coverings, sanitizing wipes, disinfectant, and more. Medical Reserve Corps volunteers will be stationed at the polling locations to help with these practices.

Text LCVOTES to 888777 to receive text alerts from the Loudoun County Office of Elections and Voter Registration or sign up for the Election Update category through [Alert Loudoun](#), the county's email and text notification system. Follow the Office of Elections and Voter Registration on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Loudoun County Government also posts general information on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Visit loudoun.gov/novemberelection for more information about voting in the November general election in Loudoun.

Muscular Dystrophy Association Collections

Loudoun County Fire & Rescue's "Fill the Boot" campaign in support of the Muscular Dystrophy Association will be virtual this year, due to COVID-19. From October 1 - 31, LCFR will join the Loudoun Career Fire Fighters Association and MDA to promote the online campaign. The link to donate is [here](#) and will also be posted to social media platforms. For questions about the campaign, please contact Technician Alan Turner at alan.turner@loudoun.gov. Thanks in advance for your support!

Household Hazardous Waste Events

The next Loudoun County Household Hazardous Waste collection events are scheduled for Saturday, October 10 at 751 Miller Drive SE in Leesburg and Saturday, November 21 at Claude Moore Park (46150 Loudoun Park Lane in Sterling). Both events will take place 8:30AM - 2:30PM. The household hazardous waste program provides a safe and free way for residents to get rid of hazardous material that may

have accumulated in their homes. Household hazardous waste is any waste produced in the home that is dangerous or potentially harmful to human health or the environment. Please don't bring ammunition, propane tanks, motor oil and car batteries, electronics, medical waste, or paint. For more information about the Household Hazardous Waste Program, call 703-771-5500 or visit loudoun.gov/hhw.

Donations to Local Food Banks

Food banks need help now more than ever!

Donations to the Dulles South Food Pantry can be made in person at 24757 Arcola Mills Drive on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM or online at dsfp.org/donate-money. The Dulles South Food Pantry provides food assistance up to twice a month to any person who resides in the school attendance zones for Freedom High School, John Champe High School, Independence High School, Rock Ridge High School and Briar Woods High School. Call 703-507-2795 or email info@dsfp.org to schedule an appointment. See the Dulles South Food Pantry's website at <http://www.dsfp.org/> for information on how you can help the food pantry fight local hunger. Donations to the Dulles South Food Pantry, Inc. are tax deductible.

Donations to Loudoun Hunger Relief can be made in person at 750 Miller Drive SE in Leesburg or via loudounhunger.org/donate-now.

Blood Donation

The American Red Cross continues to have an urgent need for blood and platelet donations. Donation sites follow the required social distancing during the collection events at this extremely critical time. No drop-in donations are allowed. To schedule an appointment, please visit redcross.org/give-blood.

Inova Blood Services has blood drives scheduled and take donors by appointment. Visit <https://www.inovablood.org/> to schedule and appointments. Residents who have had a positive COVID-19 test and are symptom-free for 14 days may be able to donate plasma. The plasma should be rich in immunoglobulins that may be helpful to patients who are actively fighting a COVID-19 infection. Visit <https://www.inovablood.org/covid19plasma/> for more information.

Loudoun Medical Reserve Corps Volunteering

The Health Department continues to seek volunteers for the Loudoun Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). With the COVID-19 pandemic a reality, the need for Loudoun Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers - both medical and nonmedical personnel - is greater than ever. The MRC is asking medical doctors, nurses, physician assistants, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, dentists, veterinarians, and other medical professionals to consider volunteering their time to help protect the community's health during the pandemic and beyond. For example, medical professionals may be needed to help with influenza vaccination events as flu season approaches and with COVID-19 vaccinations when there is a vaccine, as well as potential testing and other events. Nonmedical professionals can help support testing activities, contact-tracing efforts, operating the Loudoun County Health Department's information line, logistics support, and other nonmedical functions. For more information, visit loudoun.gov/mrc. [Register through the Virginia Volunteer Health System.](#)

Rebuild VA Economic Recovery Fund

Governor Ralph Northam announced \$70 million for small businesses and nonprofit organizations whose normal operations were disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding will be made available through Rebuild VA, a new economic recovery fund, and grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded to

approximately 7,000 applicants to cover eligible expenses.

Rebuild VA will be administered by the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity (SBSD).

Businesses must certify that they have not received federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) or Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) funds or other funding from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

For more information about Rebuild VA, eligibility criteria, covered expenses, and how to submit an application, please visit this [site](#).

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